

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of claims:

Claims 1-54 (cancelled).

Claim 55 (currently amended): A nucleic acid having a modified base sequence of a ferric-chelate reductase gene ~~FREL~~ derived from *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* ~~FRE1~~, wherein the sequence is modified by ~~features~~ (A) and (B) without altering the amino acid sequence thereof, for eliminating the sequences relating to poly(A) addition, and for introducing said gene into a plant,

wherein ~~features~~ (A) and (B) are defined as follows:

(A) ~~eliminating~~ GT rich regions comprising 8 or more consecutive bases of G or T ~~are eliminated~~,

and

(B) ~~eliminating~~ sequences ~~encoded by~~ AATAAA, NATAAA, ANTAAA, AANAAA, AATNAA, AATANA, ~~or and~~ AATAAN ~~are eliminated~~.

Claim 56 (previously presented): The DNA according to claim 55, wherein the DNA has a base sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 1.